

SUMMER WORK AND TRAVEL FACT SHEET

Bulgarians have been participating in Summer Work and Travel (SWT) since 2000. Since then, Bulgaria has become one of the countries in the region that send the most students on this program. During the 2016 season, we expect to issue the 100,000th visa.

The program is focused on cultural exchange. The student's work experience in the United States focuses primarily on interacting with people from other countries and improving language skills. The students also gain work experience, and most of them find the global perspective they gained, and even the people they met during their SWT experience puts them on a successful career path after university.

To qualify for this program, the candidate must be a full-time student at an accredited university, speak English well enough to handle day-to-day living situations and to perform their job, and be able to prove to the consular officer that s/he will return to Bulgaria by October 1st.

In 2015, the U.S. Embassy Sofia launched the Summer Work and Travel Alumni Association. This association provides networking opportunities for the participants after they return to Bulgaria and helps support them in their endeavors in professional development and involvement in their community.

Refer to the Embassy's Facebook page and website for news updates and to find accurate information about procedures and policies.

